



● A job well done . . . Nearest the camera are Coun Dav Busher and his wife Lesley. Rear of picture are (left to right) Mr Jim McKibbin, treasurer of the town council; Coun John Jones, Coun Wilf Matthews, Coun Mrs Marie McKibbin and groundsman Mr Peter Newman.

IT took a group of South Wales councillors just five minutes to come up with the solution to an expensive playground problem — and then five days of hard work!

Members of the Cowbridge and Llanblethian Town Council were told it would cost £500 to install a playground in the town centre. So they decided to do the job themselves — and save the town some money.

Under the direction of master builder Coun Wilf Matthews, a former mayor of Cowbridge, they marched to the Poplars play park in overalls and with a battery of picks and shovels.

Residents watched in some surprise as Coun Mrs Marie McKibbin, chairperson of leisure amenities, mixed the cement for her husband, Jim, to pour into the foundation pit dug by Deputy Mayor Coun John Jones.

Under the supervision of her husband, Tony

PICK, SHOVEL COUNCILLORS CUT PLAY BILL

(himself a councillor), Coun Mrs Ann Hutchinson went to work rigging up a water chain from the River Thaw for the cement mixers.

The Mayor, Coun David Busher, helped put up the see-saw while the Mayoress, Mrs Lesley Busher, acted as a "general dogsbody." Within five days, the see-saw, the roundabout and climbing frame were completed — at a total cost of about £50.

The playground was originally planned to commemorate the Royal Wedding last year.

In conjunction with the town's Chamber of Trade,

the council aimed at first to plant trees along the main road through Cowbridge.

When this scheme was found to be unworkable the members hit upon the idea of a play park, never realising that heavy labour would be involved.

"We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. We had a tremendous feeling of achievement afterwards. Everybody helped in some way or another," said Mr Busher.

The play park is used regularly by children of the town and was well worth the effort, Mr Busher added.